



# CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

## 24-HOUR REPORT

**21 OCTOBER 2021**

### (U) CALIFORNIA

#### (U) Los Angeles – Anti-Asian Hate Crimes Increased by 76% in LA County

(U) Anti-Asian hate crimes increased by 76% in Los Angeles County last year, mirroring a disturbing trend in many other jurisdictions as physical and verbal attacks on Asian Americans rose during the COVID-19 pandemic. Of the 44 anti-Asian hate crimes reported in LA County in 2020, more than three-quarters involved physical violence, a marked increase from 58% in 2018.

SOURCE: 20 October 2021, [LA Times](#)

### (U) NATIONAL

#### (U) Maryland – Walter Reed Locked Down for Hours After Bomb Threat

(U) Bethesda – Naval Support Activity Bethesda, home to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, was locked down for hours Wednesday after a bomb threat, officials say. The installation received an anonymous call at about 8:45 a.m. “stating there is a bomb at or near Building 10,” Naval Support Activity Bethesda officials said. An active shooter threat also was initially made. There was no indication of a shooter, officials said. No information was immediately released on whether anything was found or who placed the call. An investigation is ongoing.

SOURCE: 20 October 2021, [NBC Washington](#)

#### (U) New York – Brooklyn Lawyers Plead Guilty to Charge in Molotov Cocktail Case Tied to Protest

(U) Brooklyn – Two lawyers who federal prosecutors say took part during an anti-police brutality protest last year in making a Molotov cocktail and throwing it at an empty New York Police Department vehicle have each pleaded guilty to one charge related to the incident. Colinford Mattis, 34, and Urooj Rahman, 32, each pleaded guilty Wednesday in a Brooklyn courtroom to a count of knowingly making and possessing a destructive device.

SOURCE: 20 October 2021, [CNN](#)

#### (U) West Virginia – Cash, Shredded Documents Found at Couple's Home in Espionage Case

(U) Martinsburg – The FBI found a trash bag of shredded documents, thousands of dollars in cash, latex gloves and a “go-bag” when they searched the home of a Maryland couple accused of trying to sell information about nuclear-powered warships to a foreign country, an agent testified Wednesday. Jonathan Toebbe, a Navy nuclear engineer, and his wife, Diana, were arrested this month on espionage charges. Prosecutors allege that Jonathan Toebbe tried to pass submarine secrets to someone he thought was a representative of a foreign government but who was an undercover agent. The couple pleaded not guilty in federal court in West Virginia. They face life in prison if convicted.

SOURCE: 20 October 2021, [NBC Washington](#)

### (U) INTERNATIONAL

#### (U) Lithuania – Two Individuals Sentenced for Providing “Bulletproof Hosting” for Cybercriminals

(U) Vilnius – Two Eastern European men were sentenced for providing “bulletproof hosting” services, which were used by cybercriminals between 2009 to 2015 to distribute malware and attack financial

## UNCLASSIFIED

institutions and victims throughout the US. According to court documents, Pavel Stassi, 30, of Estonia and Aleksandr Skorodumov, 33, of Lithuania, were members of a bulletproof hosting organization founded and led by two co-defendants, Aleksandr Grichishkin and Andrei Skvortsov, both 34 and of Russia. The group rented IP addresses, servers, and domains to cybercriminal clients who employed this technical infrastructure to disseminate malware used to gain access to victims' computers.

SOURCE: 20 October 2021, [US DOJ](#)

### **(U) Mexico – Mexican Authorities Arrest Leader of Colombian Guerilla Group FARC**

(U) Mexico City – One of the leaders of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), the Colombian guerrilla group, was arrested Tuesday in Mexico City. The arrest was due to an Interpol red circular issued by Paraguay for “kidnapping, criminal association, and intentional homicide,” reported the government of Colombia. The arrested FARC leader had an international arrest warrant from Paraguay for participating in the kidnapping and murder of the daughter of a former Paraguayan government official.

SOURCE: 20 October 2021, [El Nacional](#)

### **(U) Nigeria – Eight Nigerian Nationals Charged with Conspiring to Engage in Money Laundering**

(U) Abuja – Eight Nigerians have been charged with conspiring to engage in internet scams and money laundering from Cape Town, South Africa, the US Department of Justice said on Wednesday. Seven leaders of the Cape Town Zone of the Neo Black Movement of Africa, also known as “Black Axe,” and an eighth man who conspired with a Black Axe leader, were charged with multiple federal crimes relating to internet scams they perpetrated from South Africa, Acting US Attorney Rachael Honig said.

SOURCE: 20 October 2021, [Reuters](#)

### **(U) Syria – Bomb Kills 14, Another 12 Killed by Army Shelling in Rebel Area in Idlib**

(U) Damascus – A blast on an army bus in Damascus on Wednesday killed 14 people, state media reported, the deadliest bombing in the Syrian capital in years, quickly followed by army shelling in rebel-held Idlib which rescue workers said killed 12 people. The bus carrying troops was blown up near a bridge in the center of Damascus. A military source quoted by state media said two bombs had been attached to the vehicle in advance. Army engineers defused a third.

SOURCE: 20 October 2021, [Reuters](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

UNCLASSIFIED